



AnnaHiking
Active holidays in Griekenland
www.annahiking.nl

Cyclades – Naxos and Santorini – self-guided: 8-day walking tour on Naxos and Santorini 2024 (CNWH214I)

Great combination with other Cyclades islands!



Our hiking philosophy: active during the day, and in the afternoon a warm shower, a good meal and a comfortable bed in a small-scale accommodation.

We invite you to join us!

more information: www.annahiking.nl



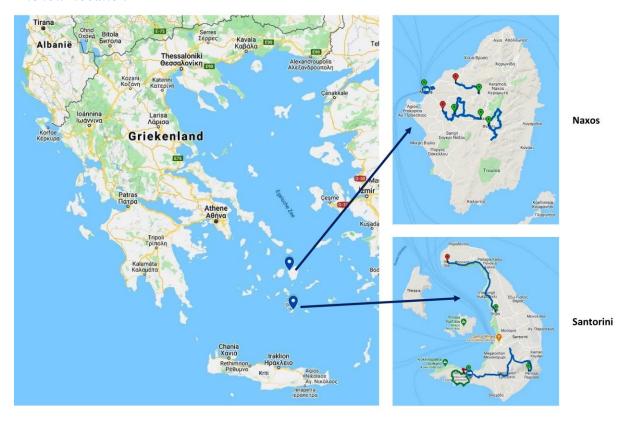
About AnnaHiking and S-Cape

In 1991 we visited Greece for the first time. Our love for the country, the culture, the climate, the food, the language and the Greek has grown ever since. We feel at home here and want to communicate this feeling to others.

Many people are familiar with the Greek "islands with beautiful beaches". Many islands also boast a splendid inland with historical paths, ideal for hiking. Naxos and Santorini are such islands with much more on offer than beaches alone, and we'd love to introduce them to you.

Our agent S-Cape from Athens explored several hiking routes and described them in detail. As an individual traveller we offer you these descriptions together with GPS-tracks, a navigation app for your smartphone and marked detailed maps, so you can find your way easily. You'll also receive an information package with background information, tips for the best meals and several other useful trivia.

The tour location



General tour information

Naxos and Santorini belong to the Cyclades islands and are situated in the Egean Sea. Santorini has an airport; the connection to Naxos is by ferryboat.

Depending on your flight schedule the following options apply:

- 1. If your incoming flight arrives before 13.00: From Santorini you sail the same day to Naxos. On day 5 you sail back to Santorini. Click here for the day-to-day program Naxos-Santorini.
- 2. If your outgoing flight departs after 19.00: You'll be met at the airport and taken to your accommodation in Akrotiri. On day 4 you sail to Naxos. On day 8 you sail back to Santorini and go to the airport. Click here for the day-to-day program Santorini-Naxos.



3. If your incoming flight arrives after 13.00 ánd your outgoing flight departs before 19.00, you'll have to book an extra overnight stay on Santorini. Ask us for advice.



On Naxos you'll stay 4 nights in Naxos town (Chora), close to the harbour. Here four walks are described. You'll explore f.i. the highest summit of the island, Zas, with spectaculair views all around you.

On Santorini you'll stay 3 nights in or just outside Akrotiri, a village on the quiet southwest side of the island. Here are 4 walks in your package, f.i. along the archeological site of Old Thira and over the highest summit, Profitis Ilias.

The walks take place on (paved) paths, gravel roads and small stretches on quiet asphalt roads. The paths are well maintained and often paved, but they might be stony.

The net walking time is between $2\frac{1}{2}$ and $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours, some days you may choose from two routes.

It's a tour for active people that want to enjoy culture and nature and the contrasts between the lively (toeristic) villages and a traditional innerland.

Highlights

- The 2800 year old Kouros statues on Naxos.
- 360° round view from the summit Zas (1000m altitude).
- Old paved paths on both islands.
- The 'caldera' (crater) on Santorini with the white villages on top.
- The vineyards in black sand.
- The archeological sites of Thira and Akrotiri.

Modular set-up: extensions/alterations/abbrevations

The arrangement can be extended with overnight stays on both islands, for rest days, extra walks or ideas of your own. On Naxos we also offer a trekking along the <u>Naxos Strada</u>.

The tour may very well be combined with one of our hiking tours on the neighbouring island Andros or the hiking tour on Tinos. Several ferries connect the Cyclades islands. See the possibilities on the Cyclades on our website.

Finally you may combine the arrangement with (parts of) <u>other tours</u> we offer. We'll gladly advise you about the logistics.

For all your wishes: ask for an estimate!

About the Cyclades

The Cyclades are situated in a circle ('kyklos') around the holy island Delos or Dilos. The legend tells us that Apollo and Artemis were born here, so Delos was the religious centre of Ionia in the 7th century B.C. The current capital is Ermoupoli.



Nowadays the Cyclades are famous for their square white houses with blue doorposts and window frames, the vast beaches and lively villages.

The climate on the Cyclades is gentle. The days are warm early in the year, but the spring nights are still cool. In autumn the day and night temperature is around 20°C. Short showers are to be expected in spring and autumn.



Also heavy winds are possible. In summer they cool you down, but in spring and autumn you may find it sometimes chilly. Due to the sun the temperatures are very pleasant from April until the end of October. Normally shorts and t-shirts are appropriate walking clothes, with a blouse or light sweater for the cooler moments.

About Naxos

Naxos is with 450 km² the largest Cyclades island and counts around 25.000 inhabitants. It's been famous for centuries for its marble, wine and local lemon liqueur (Kitron). The people grow citrus fruit, olives and grapes, while the sheep and goats in the innerland give their milk for the production of the finest cheeses.

The capital Chora or Naxos-town has 15000 inhabitants and is the seat of a Greek-orthodox bishopric and a Roman-catholic archbishopric. In the Kastro (the old inner town) you'll find the catholic cathedral close to the orthodox church Panagia Theoskepasti, containing wonderful icons. On the peninsula Palatia next to the harbour stands the Portara, a 6 meter high marble gate, meant to be the entrance of a temple that never was concluded.





Another place of interest is formed by a couple of Kouroi, statues of naked young man several meters high. One lies still unfinished in the marble quarry near Apollonas in the north. You'll come across some fallen statues on your walk to Melanes.

The island is quite mountaineous, the highest summit being Zas, 1000m above sea level and visible from almost everywhere on the island. Along the coast are vast sandy

beaches and sand dunes, attracting many sun-worshippers. The varied landscape has several lovely and quiet paths for hikers.

About Santorini or Thera/Thira

Santorini is actually a group of islands and islets within the Cyclades which came into being after a massive outburst of the vulcano around 1600 BC. The biggest island is also called Santorini, and this is where you're heading. It's situated like a crescent around the 'caldera' or crater. The capital is called Thira or Fira. The island is famous for its spectacular sundowns.

The island offers vast beaches with black, brown and red sand and pebbles. In the black sand on the plain





stand the grapes that produce wine with a particular taste.

There are two major archeological sites from the Minoic time: at Akrotiri and Old Thira. Both sites are accessible with one of our described hikes.

North of Fira the village Oia (Ia) is situated, just like Fira with white houses and blue-roofed chapels, as you see on the postcards.

The accommodations

You may choose between the standard hotels or upgrade hotels.

The **standard** hotels are:

- Naxos: Anixis Hotel, <u>www.hotel-anixis.gr</u>, in the old town centre beneath the kastro.
- Santorini: Kalimera Hotel (Akrotiri), www.kalimerasantorini.com, with pool.



- Naxos: Naxos Resort Beach Hotel, <u>naxosresort.gr</u>, with pool
- Santorini: Goulielmos Hotel (Akrotiri), <u>www.hotel-goulielmos.gr</u>, with pool and splendid sea view.

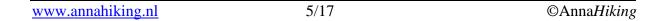
Booking

The arrangement may be booked with start date from 1 April until 25 October for the standard hotels, and from 1 May until 10 October for the upgrade hotels. From mid July until end of August it may be very hot.

Prices per person 2024

Standaard hotels

number of travellers	room type	1-4 / 28-5 1-10 / 25-10	29-5 / 27-6 1-9 / 30-9	28-6 / 31-8
travelling alone	single	€ 1085	€ 1180	€ 1375
2 persons	twin or double	€ 760	€ 805	€ 940
2 persons	2 single	€ 1045	€ 1130	€ 1330
3 persons	triple	€ 710	€ 750	€ 870
3 persons	double/twin + single	€ 840	€ 900	€ 1055
3 persons	3 single	€ 1025	€ 1115	€ 1315
4 persons	2 double/twin	€ 740	€ 785	€ 910





Upgrade hotels

number of travellers	room type	1-5 / 25-5 27-9 / 10-10	26-5 / 3-6	4-6 / 24-6 12-9 / 26-9	25-6 / 11-9
travelling alone	single	€ 1500	€ 1635	€ 1975	€ 2445
2 persons	twin or double	€ 910	€ 980	€ 1155	€ 1385
2 persons	2 single	€ 1455	€ 1595	€ 1935	€ 2395
3 persons	triple	€ 1045	€ 1130	€ 1245	€ 1450
3 persons	double/twin + single	€ 1080	€ 1170	€ 1400	€ 1710
3 persons	3 single	€ 1440	€ 1580	€ 1920	€ 2385
4 persons	quadruple	€ 910	€ 980	€ 1055	€ 1230
4 persons	2 double/twin	€ 890	€ 960	€ 1130	€ 1365

Note:

- Price is per person, flight excluded.
- Mind! If your incoming flight arrives before 13:00 you first visit Naxos and then Santorini. If your outgoing flight departs after 19:00 you first stay on Santorini and then on Naxos. This is necessary because of the ferry schedule. If your incoming flight arrives after 13:00 and the outgoing flight departs before 19:00 an extra night on Santorini is necessary. Ask for advice.
- The date applies to the departure day.
 - Mind! The price period for the two hotel types is different!
- From January 1st 2018 in Greece an 'overnight tax' is applicable. This tax has to be paid at check-in at your accommodation. Tourorganisations are not allowed by law to pay this tax.

The rates per room per night were until 2023: € 0,50 for 2*-hotels, € 1,50 for 3*-hotels, € 3,00 for 4*-hotels and € 4,00 for 5*-hotels.

It seems they'll be raised to: €1,50 for 2^* -hotels, €3,00 for 3^* -hotels, €7,00 for 4^* -hotels and €10,00 for 5^* -hotels.

Start and finish: Santorini airport.

Included

- 7 overnight stays including breakfast; 4 on Naxos, 3 on Santorini.
- Hiking maps of Naxos and Santorini; sent by post. If you live within the European Union we'll send it to your home address, otherwise the package will wait for you in the first accommodation.
- Detailed roadbook and maps; digital, sent by WeTransfer, to be printed by you at your own wishes.
- GPS tracks per hike: sent by WeTransfer.
- Use of the Active Nav app for navigation with your smartphone.
- Ferry Santorini-Naxos and Naxos-Santorini.
- Luggage transport and transfers according to the program.
- Telephone assistance and reservation fee.

Not included

- Flight and own travel expenses to Santorini.
- Lunches, diner, drinks and other personal expenses.
- Overnight tax (see above).
- Insurances.



- All transfers not mentioned in the program.
- Everything else not mentioned under "included".

Optional prebooked extras

Taxis are until 4 persons, unless the gouvernment decides otherwise.

- Taxi Athens centre Athene airport: € 72 per taxi.
- Taxi Athens airport Athens centre: € 82 per taxi.
- Transfer Akrotiri Fira shared: €16 p.p.

Luggage

You carry a day pack with water, lunch, warm and rainproof clothing, possibly swimming gear, items for personal care, binoculars/camera etc.

The remaining luggage stays in the accommodation or is transferred.

Before departure we send you a list with essential and advised items.





Day to day program Naxos-Santorini

(You can download the elevation profiles separately.)

Note: walking times mentioned are net times without breaks. The elevation profiles are on different scales.

Day 1: Arrival on Santorini and travel to Naxos (CNW01)





Your trip starts at Santorini airport. You'll be met by a taxi driver who will hand you the hiking maps and boat tickets and bring you to the port for your ferry to Naxos. Departure normally is at 16:00, arrival in Naxos port will be 18:30.

In Naxos port you'll be met and taken to your hotel. If you wish, you can make the 1,5 hour to Chrisostomos monastery starting from the port. This way you'll get to know the town and will be able to admire the great views over Chora whilst stretching your legs.

If your flight is scheduled to arrive past 13:00, you'll first stay on Santorini and then on Naxos.

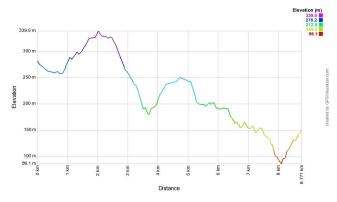
walking time/distance: 1h30' / 4,4km

ascent/descent: 130m

overnight stay: Naxos town (Chora)

Day 2: Walk Chalki-kouroi-Melanes-(Galanado/Chalki) (CNW02)





You'll go by public bus or taxi to Chalki in the heart of the Tragea plain. From here you'll explore the fertile countryside of central Naxos, with olive groves and a rich vegetation. Some olive trees are over a thousand years old!

You walk on cobbled paths along the Venetian fortress (Ano Kastro) situated about 100 altimeters above you. You may make a detour to the fortress from the Panteleïmon chapel

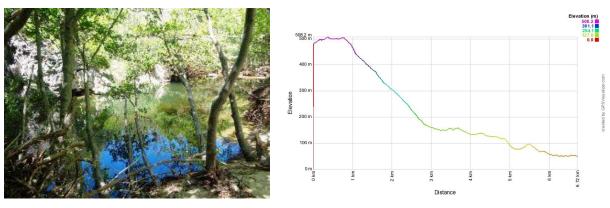


(not waymarked). You proceed to an ancient marble quarry where you'll find a 10 meter high Kouros statue, dating back to the 6th century BC.

The walk ends in the nearby village Melanes from where you can take a taxi or public bus back to the hotel. You may also continue your walk along the village Potamia to Galanado or along Potamia and Ano Kastro back to Chalki.

walking time/distance: 3h30'/10km 4h30'/14km 7h/19km ascent/descent: 150m 300m 400m overnight stay: Naxos town (Chora)

Day 3: Walk Kinidaros-Eggares (CNW03)



You take the public bus or a taxi to Kinidaros, the village with the most dancers and singers on Naxos. From the square you leave the village ascending by paved steps and a short stretch of asphalt road. Then you descend by country roads and paved paths past an old marble quarry.

At the river you leave the road and continue through the lush green valley. You'll pass some watermill ruins, a stone arched bridge and a romantic pool with terrapins. Also you'll see an old four-arched aquaduct and the Pradouna tower.





The walk ends in the village Eggares, where you'll find several tavernas and shops for your lunch. Next to the impressive church is a restored olive press which you may visit, with a shop for olive products and an outdoor café. From here you return to the hotel by taxi or public bus.

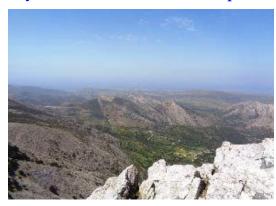
walking time/distance: 2h45' / 7km

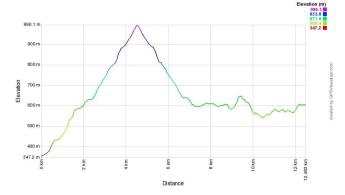
ascent/descent: 60m / 445m

overnight stay: Naxos town (Chora)



Day 4: Walk Filoti-summit Zas-Apiranthos (CNW04)





Today you'll take another public bus or taxi to the village Filoti where your walk starts. The village is built on the slopes of Mount Zas or Zeus, with 1000m altitude the highest on the island. From the village you gradually ascend towards the summit; it's not a difficult walk and you'll be rewarded with panoramic views of Naxos and the surrounding islands.

You descend by the same path until the asphalt road and the Agia Marina chapel. From there you take a path towards the Fotodotis monastery, which looks more like a fortress. Even if you find it closed, it's a lovely place for a break.

Through flowery and agricultural fields you continue to Apiranthos, a lovely town with various cafés for food and drinks. From there you take the public bus or a taxi back to the hotel.

You can shorten the walk by skipping the summit Zas. From Apiranthos you may extend the walk and return to Filoti along the slopes of the Fanari mountain; this challenging route requests a gps

Day 5: From Naxos to Santorini (CSW01)





Usually the ferry for Santorini departs around 13:00, so you'll have the morning to spend in Chora and explore the Kastro and the museum, or do the Chrisostomos walk (see day 1). The hotel bus brings your luggage (and you, if you so wish) to the port.

The crossing takes 2½ hours. As the ferry arrives through the submersed volcano crater you'll be impressed by the views to the steep coloured cliffs of this ancient volcanic island and the

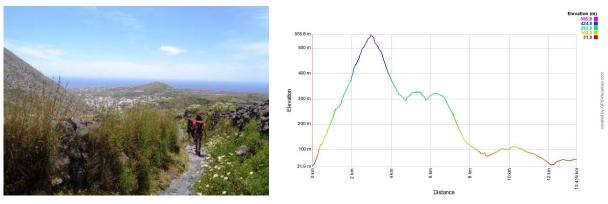


whitewashed villages on top. It is said that the eruption that happened here 3600 years ago ended the Minoan Civilization. It may also have been the source for the legend of Atlantis.

You'll be met at the port and taken to Akrotiri, a village on the caldera ridge in the quiet south-east of the island. From the hotel you may make some short walks.

overnight stay: Santorini Akrotiri

Day 6: Walk Perissa-Old Thira-Akrotiri (CSW02)



You'll be taken to Perissa at the foot of the Profitis Ilias, with 675 altimeter the highest summit of the island. By an old path you ascend to the saddle with the parking lot for the archeological site Old Thira. This part is one of the very few places that pre-dates the devastating volcanic eruption of 1600 BC. You may visit the site before you proceed.

You continue the ascent by an old path through the light-weight volcanic pumice At the highest point the path ends near the Profitis Ilias monastery, certainly worth a visit. The courtyard with its spring is a lovely spot for a break with spectaculair views.

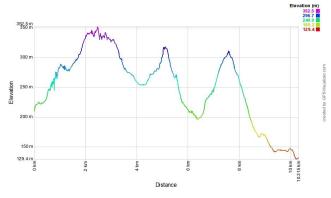
The old path now descends towards the picturesque villages Pyrgos and Emporio. You walk through the volcanic landscape along vineyards and windmills and finally reach Akrotiri. There are several possibilities to shorten the walk.

walking time/distance: 5h30' / 13,4km

ascent/descent: 570m / 555m overnight stay: Santorini Akrotiri

Day 7: Walk Fira-Oia (CSW03)







By public bus you travel to Fira, the current capital of the island. Your walk is short, so you have ample time to explore the narrow alleyways of this whitewashed town, built on top of the volcanic cliffs. The museum of Prehistoric Thira and the Archeological museum are also worth a visit.

Then you take the famous cliff path to Merovigli. You might make a small detour to the Theoskepasti chapel on a rock in sea. From Merovigli you'll walk past a couple of luxuary hotels and then again on the old cliff path to Oia. The views over the lagoog and spectacular steef cliffs is fabulous. You'll pass a couple of chapels and then you'll reach Oia. Time for a drink and dwelling in the small streets, awaiting your transport back to the hotel.

walking time/distance: 3h / 10,3km ascent/descent: 300m / 400m overnight stay: Santorini Akrotiri

Day 8: Departure from Santorini (CSW04)





Depending on your flight schedule you may make a short walk to the nearby archeological site of Akrotiri, the "Greek Pompei" that reopend in 2012 after it had been closed for many years.

You may prolong the walk to the Red Beach and make it a circular walk past Black Beach and up again through one of the most authentic parts of Santorini: Loumarades. Then you follow paths through vineyards and along terraces back to Akrotiri. You pass the Venetian fortress in the village before you reach your hotel.

You may also make the short circular walk along Caldera Beach, if you didn't on the day you arrived on Santorini.

Your trip ends today after a short transfer to Santorini airport.



Day to day program Santorini-Naxos

(You can download the elevation profiles separately.)

Note: walking times mentioned are net times without breaks. The elevation profiles are on different scales.

Day 1: Arrival on Santorini (CSW11)





You'll be met at the airport and taken to Akrotiri, a village on the caldera ridge in the quiet south-east of the island. From the hotel you may make some short walks: a circular walk past Caldera Beach, back and forth to the archeological site of Akrotiri or a circular walk along the site, Red Beach and Black Beach.

circular walk to the ancient site circular walk

Caldera beach and back Red Beach

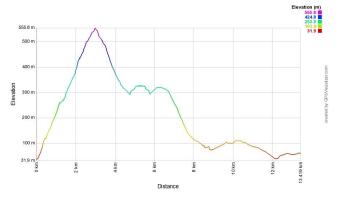
walking time/distance: 1h / 2,5km 1h / 3km 2h30' / 7,3km

ascent/descent: 150m 75m 240m

overnight stay: Santorini Akrotiri

Day 2: Walk Perissa-Old Thira-Akrotiri (CSW02)





You'll be taken to Perissa at the foot of the Profitis Ilias, with 675 altimeter the highest summit of the island. By an old path you ascend to the saddle with the parking lot for the archeological site Old Thira. This part is one of the very few places that pre-dates the devastating volcanic eruption of 1600 BC. You may visit the site before you proceed.

You continue the ascent by an old path through the light-weight volcanic pumice At the highest point the path ends near the Profitis Ilias monastery, certainly worth a visit. The courtyard with its spring is a lovely spot for a break with spectaculair views.



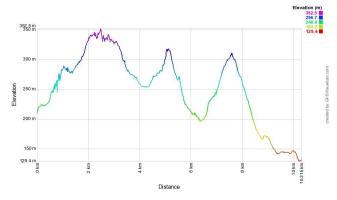
The old path now descends towards the picturesque villages Pyrgos and Emporio. You walk through the volcanic landscape along vineyards and windmills and finally reach Akrotiri. There are several possibilities to shorten the walk.

walking time/distance: 5h30' / 13,4km

ascent/descent: 570m / 555m overnight stay: Santorini Akrotiri

Day 3: Walk Fira-Oia (CSW03)





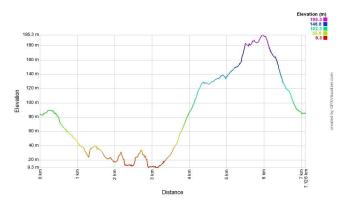
By public bus you travel to Fira, the current capital of the island. Your walk is short, so you have ample time to explore the narrow alleyways of this whitewashed town, built on top of the volcanic cliffs. The museum of Prehistoric Thira and the Archeological museum are also worth a visit.

Then you take the famous cliff path to Merovigli. You might make a small detour to the Theoskepasti chapel on a rock in sea. From Merovigli you'll walk past a couple of luxuary hotels and then again on the old cliff path to Oia. The views over the lagoog and spectacular steef cliffs is fabulous. You'll pass a couple of chapels and then you'll reach Oia. Time for a drink and dwelling in the small streets, awaiting your transport back to the hotel.

walking time/distance: 3h / 10,3km ascent/descent: 300m / 400m overnight stay: Santorini Akrotiri

Day 4: Walk to ancient Akrotiri, travel to Naxos (CSW14)





Depending on your flight schedule you may make a short walk to the nearby archeological site of Akrotiri, the "Greek Pompei" that reopend in 2012 after it had been closed for many years.



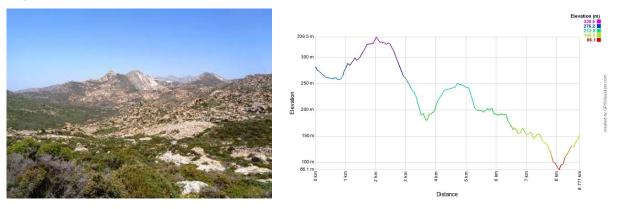
You may prolong the walk to the Red Beach and make it a circular walk past Black Beach and up again through one of the most authentic parts of Santorini: Loumarades. Then you follow paths through vineyards and along terraces back to Akrotiri. You pass the Venetian fortress in the village before you reach your hotel.

You may also make the short circular walk along Caldera Beach, if you didn't on the day you arrived on Santorini.

The crossing takes 2,5 hours. In Naxos port you'll be met and taken to your hotel. If you wish, you can make the 1,5 hour to Chrisostomos monastery starting from the port. This way you'll get to know the town and will be able to admire the great views over Chora whilst stretching your legs.

	circular walk	to the ancient	circular walk	Naxos
	Caldera beach	site and back	<u>Red Beach</u>	Chrisostomos
walking time/distance:	2h30' / 7,3km	1h / 3km	1h/2,5km	1h30'/4,4km
ascent/descent:	240m	75m	150m	130m
overnight stay: Naxos stad (Chora)				

Day 5: Walk Chalki-kouroi-Melanes-(Galanado/Chalki) (CNW02)



You'll go by public bus or taxi to Chalki in the heart of the Tragea plain. From here you'll explore the fertile countryside of central Naxos, with olive groves and a rich vegetation. Some olive trees are over a thousand years old!

You walk on cobbled paths along the Venetian fortress (Ano Kastro) situated about 100 altimeters above you. You may make a detour to the fortress from the Panteleïmon chapel (not waymarked). You proceed to an ancient marble quarry where you'll find a 10 meter high Kouros statue, dating back to the 6th century BC.

The walk ends in the nearby village Melanes from where you can take a taxi or public bus back to the hotel. You may also continue your walk along the village Potamia to Galanado or along Potamia and Ano Kastro back to Chalki.

	<u>to meianes</u>	<u>to Galanaao</u>	<u>cırcular walk</u>
walking time/distance:	3h30'/10km	4h30' / 14km	7h / 19km
ascent/descent:	150m	300m	400m
overnight stay: Naxos to	wn (Chora)		

www.annahiking.nl 15/17 ©AnnaHiking



Day 6: Walk Kinidaros-Eggares (CNW03)



You take the public bus or a taxi to Kinidaros, the village with the most dancers and singers on Naxos. From the square you leave the village ascending by paved steps and a short stretch of asphalt road. Then you descend by country roads and paved paths past an old marble quarry.

At the river you leave the road and continue through the lush green valley. You'll pass some watermill ruins, a stone arched bridge and a romantic pool with terrapins. Also you'll see an old four-arched aquaduct and the Pradouna tower.





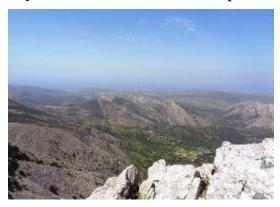
The walk ends in the village Eggares, where you'll find several tavernas and shops for your lunch. Next to the impressive church is a restored olive press which you may visit, with a shop for olive products and an outdoor café. From here you return to the hotel by taxi or public bus.

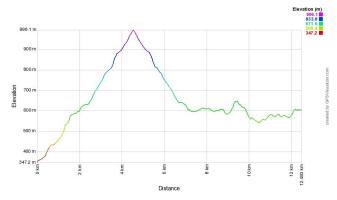
walking time/distance: 2h45' / 7km

ascent/descent: 60m / 445m

overnight stay: Naxos town (Chora)

Day 7: Walk Filoti-summit Zas-Apiranthos (CNW04)







Today you'll take another public bus or taxi to the village Filoti where your walk starts. The village is built on the slopes of Mount Zas or Zeus, with 1000m altitude the highest on the island. From the village you gradually ascend towards the summit; it's not a difficult walk and you'll be rewarded with panoramic views of Naxos and the surrounding islands.

You descend by the same path until the asphalt road and the Agia Marina chapel. From there you take a path towards the Fotodotis monastery, which looks more like a fortress. Even if you find it closed, it's a lovely place for a break.

Through flowery and agricultural fields you continue to Apiranthos, a lovely town with various cafés for food and drinks. From there you take the public bus or a taxi back to the hotel.

You can shorten the walk by skipping the summit Zas. From Apiranthos you may extend the walk and return to Filoti along the slopes of the Fanari mountain; this challenging route requests a gps

	Filoti-Zas-Apiranthos	Filoti-Apiranthos	<u>circular walk</u>
walking time/distance:	5h / 12km	2h30'/6,5km	7h / 17km
ascent/descent:	650m / 500m	250m / 100m	900m
overnight stay: Naxos to	own (Chora)		

Day 8: From Naxos to Santorini and departure (CNW05)





Usually the ferry for Santorini departs around 13:00, so you'll have the morning to spend in Chora and explore the Kastro and the museum, or do the Chrisostomos walk (see day 4). The hotel bus brings your luggage (and you, if you so wish) to the port.

The crossing takes 2½ hours.

You'll be met at the port and taken to Santorini airport for your returning flight.